GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AYURVEDA,YOGA & NATUROPATHY,UNANI,SIDDHA AND HOMEOPATHY (AYUSH)
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1006
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2016
Universal Health Insurance Scheme
Arunmozhithevan Shri A.

Will the Minister of AYURVEDA,YOGA & NATUROPATHY,UNANI,SIDDHA AND HOMEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has urged the Ministry of Finance to include Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) system of medicines under the Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHIS);

(b) whether the UHIS has enabled to integrate traditional systems of medicines into the public health system, if so, the manner in which the AYUSH system will integrate with UHIS;

(c) whether the Government is considering to focus on the need for creation of infrastructure, research facilities and regulation to streamline AYUSH; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA,
YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY
(SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)
(a) & (b): Ministry of AYUSH had written to Ministry of Finance on 10th June, 2015 requesting review of the insurance provisions for AYUSH treatments but not in relation to Universal Health Insurance Scheme. It is informed that Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHIS) was launched in the year 2004-05 and was implemented by the four public sector general insurance companies for improving the access of health care to poor families but this scheme has been discontinued in phased manner as a new scheme 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY)' was launched by the Ministry of Labour targeting the same population and now implemented by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare as a Centrally Sponsored Health Insurance Scheme with revamped provisions, in which integration of AYUSH systems is not spelt out.

(c) & (d): The Government has established five AYUSH Research Councils, viz Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, Central Council for Research in Siddha and Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy with a network of 81 peripheral research units distributed across the country. A central scheme of extramural research is also implemented to support research projects on AYUSH. Education and practice of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani (ASU) and Homoeopathy are regulated under the provisions of Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 and Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 respectively. Central Council of Indian Medicine and Central Council of Homeopathy are established under these acts to oversee the enforcement of legal provisions for the education and practice of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy systems. Specific regulatory and quality control provisions for ASU&H drugs are prescribed in the Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 and Rules thereunder. Financial support is provided through National AYUSH Mission and various Central Schemes for promotion and strengthening of AYUSH institutions and activities.